



RENTON MUNICIPAL ARTS COMMISSION MINUTES

July 1, 2014

Renton City Hall, 7th Floor –Conference Center

Members Present:

Peter Hartley, Chair, Evelyn Reingold, Jerri Everett, Ben Andrews, Bill Huls, Natalie Gress, Michele Bettinger, and Elizabeth Higgins, Staff Liaison

Excused Absence: Marsha Rollinger, Jaris English, Mitch Shepherd, and Paul Hebron

Guests: Ellen Huls and John Collum, City of Renton, Department of Community and Economic Development - Project Manager

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by RMAC President, Peter Hartley at 4:35 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the June 3, 2014 RMAC were read and accepted as submitted.

Correspondence and Announcements: The correspondence and event folders were circulated for individual review.

- July 25 -27, 2014, "Renton River Days"
- August 1 -10, 2014, "The Wedding Singer" It's the 29th Annual Summer Teen Musical at Renton Civic Theatre (425-226-5529 or rentoncivictheatre.org for ticket information)
- August 3, 2014, "Creative Development Exchange Kenya Fundraiser, 3:00 – 5:00 at Bread of Life Mission - Pioneer Square, 97 So. Main St – (www.lifespringafrica.com or www.creativedevelopmentexchange.com
- August 5, 2014, 4:30 – 6:30, next RMAC meeting

Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee –**
 - The City of Renton's Comprehensive Plan completion date is June 2015. The RMAC Comprehensive Plan goals and objectives have to be reflected into the Renton's policies, ordinances and regulations. Elizabeth has developed a matrix and Evelyn will devote one day per week, starting in August, to determine coverage/ gaps.
 - RMAC now has access to shared documents online. Members should check their emails for a link to the shared document site. File folders under general topics are available and this will allow easier reviews and communication.
- **Resource Committee –**
 - RMAC Budget status as of May 31, 2014 was presented by Elizabeth and discussed by the RMAC. It was noted that the 2014 budget had not been established in January. However, the January 2015 will be developed.
 - Ben and Michele will prepare the power point presentation for our annual report to the City Council about our activities last year and what we have accomplished for this year.

- Marketing strategy continues as a priority. Work will soon start with Lynda Maybury, Web designer and Social Media Consultant, who gave us a comprehensive proposal at our May 5, 2014 meeting which included a complete revision of our website to make it more user- friendly as an outreach tool for residents, and to coordinate a calendar of events with other groups. The amount of \$4500 has been allocated for this project.
- Peter stated that we needed to work on securing matching grants and to identify the various funding sources grant cycles. He thinks submitting at least four grants per year would be ideal for us. So far, we submitted one Our Town application (which was denied) and will apply for a 4Culture grant in October. There is also an opportunity to apply for a First Financial Northwest grant.
- **Small Grant Application:** Rick Moreno from Wow Murals and Ezell Stephens, owner of Heaven Sent Chicken, completed a Small Grant Application request for \$500 to complete the mural on 3rd and Morris, across from the Piazza, as suggested by the RMAC. The grant application will be reviewed by the Grant Review Committee.
- **Renton River Days:** Michele reported that the RMAC had a new opportunity to host the “Meet the Artist” booth in lieu of our previous plan. We were going to use postcard drawings of various public artworks for visitors to color at our booth.
 - The new effort will require RMAC members to check in an artist to showcase their work for one hour. Artists will not be able to sell their work although they can have brochures, flyers, and business cards on display. The booth will be open all three Renton River Days and we can showcase thirteen (13) artists. Each artist will get a \$60.00 stipend. Michele will coordinate the artists and other RMAC members have signed up for shifts during the weekend.
 - In addition to the artists, we will display/handout: flyers, brochures, save the date cards, and business cards for other arts and cultural groups. Last year we were able to borrow some spinning brochure holders to give a professional look to the information. The holders are no longer available to borrow and it was decided that we needed to purchase a couple of them. Peter is to check with Mitch and purchase the same kind of display holders we used last year.

Old Business:

- **Public Art in the Downtown Library:** The art pieces have been removed by Renton Facilities Department and sent to ARTech for cleaning and/or repair before being relocated to their new homes at the Senior Activity Center, Fire Station 12, and Renton City Hall.
- **RMAC Vacancies:** Currently there are three positions open. Youth member, Natalie Gress , has graduated from high school will be off to college soon. She is trying to recruit her replacement and will invite them to a RMAC meeting.
- **RMAC Biographies:** Reminder ---Commissioner bios are due to Jaris by July 15, 2014. The Planning Commissioner bios are to be used for reference. Mitch is available to bring lights and cameras to take professional pictures of each commissioner at the next RMAC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Evelyn Reingold,
RMAC Secretary

Peter Hartley,
Chair